

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 00210 01 OF 02 031947Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 ACDA-05

BIB-01 DODE-00 FEA-01 EB-07 COME-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01

/102 W

----- 054934

O R 031933Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5581

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 00210

GENEVA FOR CSCE AND MEPC DELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 00210 01 OF 02 031947Z

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PGOV FR ENRG US XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT GISCARD'S IMPROMPTU REMARKS TO THE
PRESS--JANUARY 3

SUMMARY: DURING A RECEPTION AT THE ELYSEE FOR THE
PARISIAN PRESS. GOF PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING
INDICATED, IN IMPROMPTU REMARKS REPORTED BY AGENCE
FRANCE PRESSE, THAT HE WOULD VISIT THE US DURING 1976, DIS
CUSSED ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON BASKET III AT CSCE,
AGAIN SPOKE OUT IN SUPPORT OF THE TRIPARTITE ENERGY
CONFERENCE, AND OFFERED THE FRENCH A LOOK AT THE PROPOSED
CHANGES IN THEIR MUNICIPAL ELECTION LAWS. QUOTES ARE
UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF AFP REPORTING. END
SUMMARY.

1. VISIT TO THE US. GISCARD TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE
WOULD CONTINUE TO STUDY ENGLISH TWICE A WEEK IN PREPAR-
ATION FOR A VISIT WHICH HE INTENDS TO MAKE TO THE UNITED
STATES IN 1976 FOR THE BICENTENNIAL. HE WENT ON TO SAY
THAT HE WILL BE INVITED TO SPEAK BEFORE THE CONGRESS AT
THAT TIME. "I AM COUNTING ON SPEAKING ENGLISH BECAUSE
THAT IS THE LANGUAGE OF THE COUNTRY," SAID THE PRESIDENT
AND ADDED THAT HE ALSO KNEW GERMAN AND HAD STUDIED LATIN
AND GREEK.

2. SECRETARY GENERAL BREZHNEV'S HEALTH: "I HAVE NO
SPECIAL INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. DURING OUR
MEETINGS AT RAMBOUILLET (DECEMBER 4N 6 AND 7) I FOUND THE
SOVIET LEADER TIRED, WHICH WAS NORMAL SINCE HE WAS JUST
COMING BACK FROM VLADIVOSTOK WHERE HAD MET PRESIDENT
FORD AND HAD HAD TO BEAR THE EFFECTS OF A LONG AIRPLANE
TRIP AS WELLAS THE EFFECTS OF A TIME CHANGE IN THE
WRONG DIRECTION."

3. THE UK AND EC: "GREAT BRITAIN WILL BE ONE OF
THE MAJOR PROBLEMS, IF NOT THE MAJOR PROBLEM, OF THE
FIRST HALF OF 1975."

4. THE MIDDLE EAST: "AFTER THE INTERVIEWS WHICH I HAD
WITH MR. BREZHNEV AND MR. FORD, I NOTED THAT THERE IS,
ON THAT WHICH COULD BE A SOLUTION, A GREATER CONVERGENCE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 00210 01 OF 02 031947Z

THAN IS THOUGHT. THE PROBLEM IS TO KNOW WHETHER THERE
EXISTS THE MEANS AND THE CAPACITY TO PUT IT (THE SOLUTION
TO WORK." GISCARD IS REPORTED TO HAVE ADDED THAT IN
ANY EVENT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO MULTIPLY OUR EFFORTS
TO AVOID A POSSIBLE CONFLICT.

5. ENERGY: "AMONG THE CONSUMER NATIONS, IT IS NORMAL
THAT A COMMON ANALYSIS BE MADE OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH

WILL BE EVOKED AT THE TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE ON ENERGY JUST AS THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES HAVE A COMMON ANALYSIS; BUT IN THE ONE CASE, AS IN THE OTHER, THERE ARE NUANCES IN THE POSITION OF THE CONSUMER COUNTRIES AS THERE ARE IN THAT OF THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES. THERE WILL NOT BE A COMMON SPOKESMAN FOR THE CONSUMER COUNTRIES NOR, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, FOR THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES, BECAUSE IF THIS WERE SO, THE CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE NO RAISON D'ETRE ('LA CONFERENCE N'AURAIT AUCUN OBJET')." GISCARD UNDERLINED THAT HE ENVISIONED BILATERAL CONCERTATION BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE OTHER CONSUMER COUNTRIES WHICH WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE, AND HE WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTS OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE A GUARANTEE OF REVENUES TO BE EARNED BY THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES. HE FURTHER DECLARED THAT IN PLACE OF THE WORD "INDEXATION" HE WOULD PREFER TO SPEAK OF A "RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN THE PRICE OF OIL AND THE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 00210 02 OF 02 031955Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 ACDA-05

BIB-01 DODE-00 FEA-01 EB-07 COME-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01

/102 W

----- 055004

O R 031933Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5582

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
AMCONSUL LYON
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 00210

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 00210 02 OF 02 031955Z

IMPORTS OF THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES. GISCARD REITERATED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD IN MARCH AND THAT THE TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE ITSELF WOULD BE HELD NEXT JUNE.

6. CSCE: "THE SOVIETS WERE IRRITATED BY THE/ OBSTRUCTIONISM OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES. MR. LEONID BREZHNEV IS PERSONALLY INVOLVED WITH THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONFERENCE BECAUSE IT CONSECRATES, IN HIS EYES, DETENTE IN EUROPE. FOR THE RUSSIANS THE IMPORTANT PROBLEMS OF THIS CONFERENCE ARE THE PROBLEM OF BORDERS AND THE PROBLEM OF COOPERATION." GISCARD IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON BASKET III HAD A BYZANTINE CHARACTER AND NOTED THAT THE IMPORTANT ISSUE IS THAT THE EXCHANGE OF PERSONS, BECAUSE IT HAS A HUMAN CHARACTER. HE WENT ON TO UNDERLINE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT JOURNALISTS HAVE GREATER ACCESS TO INFORMATION BUT NOTED THAT THE BELIEF THAT THE WEST WOULD TAKE OVER INFORMATION DISSEMINATION FUNCTIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION WAS A DELUSION.

7. COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT FORD: "I AM PERSUADED THAT HE WILL PRESENT HIMSELF AT THE 1976 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS; THE MANNER IN WHICH HE SPOKE OF THIS AT MARTINIQUE CONVINCED ME OF IT. I ALSO JUDGE THAT PRESIDENT FORD IS BEING UNJUSTLY MALTREATED BY THE AMERICAN PRESS. I NOTED AT MARTINIQUE THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WELL THE PROBLEMS AND THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN HIM AND MR. KISSINGER WERE

MORE RELAXED, LESS NERVOUS THAN BETWEEN MR. KISSINGER AND MR. NIXON." GISCARD REMINDED THE JOURNALISTS THAT HE HAD TELEPHONED PRESIDENT FORD TO EXTEND NEW YEAR'S WISHES AND ADDED THAT HE HAD ALSO SPOKEN ON THE FIRST OF JANUARY WITH GERMAN CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT.

8. INTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS--MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL LAW REFORMS: GISCARD SAID THAT IN CITIES OF MORE THAN 30,000 POPULATION IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO DO AWAY WITH THE MAJORITY-TAKE-ALL SYSTEM WHICH KEEPS THE OPPOSITION FROM BEING REPRESENTED. AMONG THE SOLUTIONS WHICH HE THOUGHT COULD BE ENVISIONED WAS A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 00210 02 OF 02 031955Z

ALLOW THE TWO PARTY LISTS WHICH HAD GAINED THE MOST VOTES IN THE FIRST ROUND OF ELECTIONS TO DIVIDE THE AVAILABLE SEATS AND FUNCTIONS IN PROPORTION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS AT THE END OF THE SECOND ROUND. COMMENT: THIS PROPOSITION WAS IMMEDIATELY LABELED BY SENIOR FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) LEADERS AS IRRESPONSIBLE AND AS AN EFFORT TO DIMINISH SOCIALIST CONTROL IN THOSE CITIES WHERE THE PS FACES STRONG COMMUNIST AND CENTRAL-IST OPPOSITION. END COMMENT.

9. OTHER INTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS: GISCARD ANSWERED CRITICS WHO HAVE ACCUSED HIM OF GOING TOO SLOWLY ON HIS REFORM PROGRAM BY SAYING THAT THE ADOPTION OF THE LAW ON ABORTION THIS YEAR PERMITTED A MUCH MORE VALUABLE DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS THAN WOULD HAVE BEEN THE CASE HAD THE LAW BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT LAST YEAR. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THIS "GOING SLOW" WOULD BE THE BILL ON THE TAXATION OF PLUS VALUES WHICH HE CONSIDERED TO BE AMPLY UNDERSTOOD AT THE PRESENT TIME AND WHICH WOULD MERIT A SERIOUS AND DEEP EXAMINATION. IN ADDITION HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD HOLD A SERIES OF LUNCHEONS WITH THE FRENCH PUBLIC BEGINNING WITH THE PARIS REGION AND THEN MOVING OUT TO THE PROVINCES: "ONE HAS TO SHOW THAT CHIEFS OF STATE HAVE THE SAME HUMAN CHARACTERS AS OTHER CITIZENS AND MY GOAL IN THESE MEALS WILL BE TO SPEAK WITH PUBLIC OPINION."

RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION LAW, ENERGY, PRESS CONFERENCES, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, BASKET III
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS00210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750003-0960
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750179/aaaacrsf.tel
Line Count: 268
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT GISCARD'S IMPROMPTU REMARKS TO THE PRESS--JANUARY 3
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, ENRG, FR, US, XF, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006